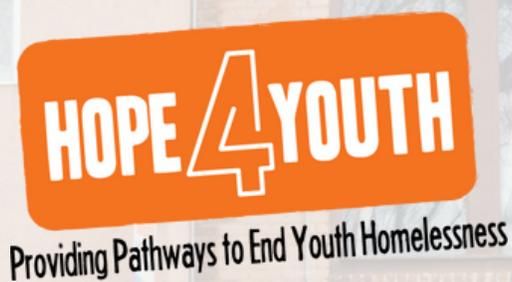


# HOPE 4 YOUTH | 2024 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT



MEETING THE NEED

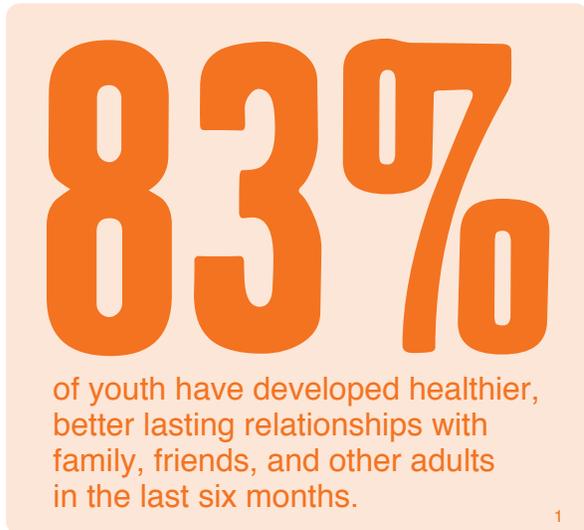
5,158

VISITS IN 2024

**HOPE 4 Youth** is a nonprofit organization in Anoka County which helps young people ages 16 to 24 who are experiencing homelessness. Our name is an acronym for our focus areas: Housing, Outreach, Prevention, and Education/Employment.

**Dear Friends of HOPE 4 Youth,**

Thank you for supporting our mission in your unique way allowing us to truly fulfill our promise of providing pathways to end youth homelessness. The examples of young people experiencing homelessness are often astonishing; their ability to overcome their current reality and move into personal success is inspiring. Dante, Kai, Tianna, and so many others look to us for life-changing resources. Together, we are providing real solutions for youth in our community.



In 2024, young people who engaged with HOPE 4 Youth found a safe, welcoming, and empowering environment. At HOPE Place and our HOPE 4 Youth Center, our goal is to meet young people where they are, provide basic needs, and move into meaningful conversations which brings stability into their lives. Our North Star is our 1:1 support through case management where youth set and achieve life-changing goals. Last year 90% of the 650 youth we worked with engaged in case management. Thank you to our volunteers, donors, and community champions for your part in spreading HOPE to the youth we serve.

In 2025, we remain dedicated to our 2024-2026 Strategic Plan, honor our HOPE nameplate: Housing, Outreach, Prevention, and Education/Employment, and plan to finalize the location of our new HOPE 4 Youth Center. Our commitment to each of these efforts will improve our community for generations.

Please join us in providing pathways to end youth homelessness; with you, we can foster change, renew hope, and see young people thrive.



In unending gratitude,

LaChelle Williams  
Executive Director  
HOPE 4 Youth

<sup>1</sup> Based on an initial January 2025 Survey post 6 months of engagement

# OUR MISSION

To provide pathways to end Youth homelessness

# OUR VISION

All youth will feel safe, valued, and supported while reaching their full potential. This begins with meeting their basic needs and leads to giving them the tools to thrive.

# OUR STRATEGIC GOALS

- 1** Provide life-enhancing programs empowering youth to reach their full potential.
- 2** Engage in transformational partnerships with community leaders, donors, and volunteers.
- 3** Laser focus on premier staff retention and operational improvement.
- 4** Select location and determine funding and operational plans for new HOPE 4 Youth Center.

# OUR CORE VALUES



## Resourceful

We collaborate to maximize resources and evolve to meet the changing needs of our participants and the community.



## Accountable

We operate with integrity and are accountable to our youth, volunteers, community, donors, and employees.



## Inclusive

We respect and embrace differences as a strength, allowing people to bring their full, authentic selves to HOPE 4 Youth.



## Hopeful

We communicate and operate with optimism and believe in a bright future for the youth we serve and our community.



## Compassionate

We serve and work with empathy and understanding to create a judgment-free environment.

# OUR PROGRAMS

We serve youth ages 16 to 24 at risk of losing their housing and those already experiencing homelessness.

The **HOPE 4 Youth Center** in Anoka is the hub for many of our services. It is a safe, non-judgmental place for all youth who are in need. No appointment is necessary to visit for a hot meal, clothing, hygiene items, shower, laundry facilities, etc. Our Youth Coordinators connect young people to stable housing, health and wellness programs, education and employment opportunities, and more. In addition, we offer on-site professional services with community partners who support basic needs, mental health, and social-emotional well-being.

Our HOPE 4 Youth **Outreach and Prevention** Programming connects youth to resources and support to assist in preventing homelessness. We do this through engagement with local high schools and community outreach to connect youth with age-appropriate resources such as Host Homes, Family Crisis Management, and Housing Support.

**HOPE Place** is our 12-unit transitional housing facility in Coon Rapids that offers supportive services to 18 to 24 year olds who are experiencing homelessness. HOPE Place staff and community partners provide on-site case management, including education and employment guidance, aimed at promoting self-sufficiency and long-term success.

In 2024, we served 650 youth;  
a 32% increase over last year.  
We provided services for 5,158 visits.

- 30%** Young Parents
- 76%** BIPOC  
(Black, Indigenous, and People of Color)
- 66%** Female
- 32%** Male
- 2%** Non-Binary
- 23%** LGBTQ+



# OUR APPROACH

The young people we see at HOPE 4 Youth carry many burdens. We recognize that every young person is on their own path where no two stories are the same. We are one touchpoint on their personal journey. As such, we have a four-fold approach<sup>2</sup> when walking alongside youth:

- 1) **Trauma-Informed Care (TIC):** Our staff is trained in TIC service delivery models. Rather than fixing what's wrong, we look at youth in terms of what has happened to them — specifically lived trauma. TIC helps us create safe spaces, build trust, and encourage youth to regain healthy responsibility.
- 2) **Strengths-Based:** Many youth experiencing homelessness have been in ongoing survival mode or endured trauma that has removed their fundamental sense of choice. At intake, Youth Coordinators empower young adults to set goals based on their strengths and areas where they can regain control for long-term self-sufficiency.
- 3) **Client-Centered:** Effective solutions must be informed by the youth we serve. The HOPE 4 Youth *Youth Advisory Council* provides young adults the space to make recommendations for program improvement with an emphasis on including the voice of marginalized groups.
- 4) **Harm Reduction:** Ending youth homelessness relies on the important framework of harm reduction, where we encourage youth goal-setting to reduce the negative consequences of drug use, alcohol addiction, or other high-risk behaviors. Without judgment, we offer youth resources for improved sexual, mental, physical, and emotional health.

WE PARTNERED WITH

129

AGENCIES FOR SERVICES  
AND RESOURCES.



<sup>2</sup>Informed by "Measuring Up: Youth-level Outcomes and Measures for Systems Response to Youth Homelessness" from the University of Chicago, and the 2014 publication "9 Evidence-Based Principles to Help Youth Overcome Homelessness"

# SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

## HOPE 4 YOUTH CENTER



**2,605** HOURS OF ONE-ON-ONE SUPPORT



**3,471** FOOD PANTRY VISITS



**1,552** CLOTHING CLOSET VISITS



**2,313** MEALS SERVED TO YOUTH



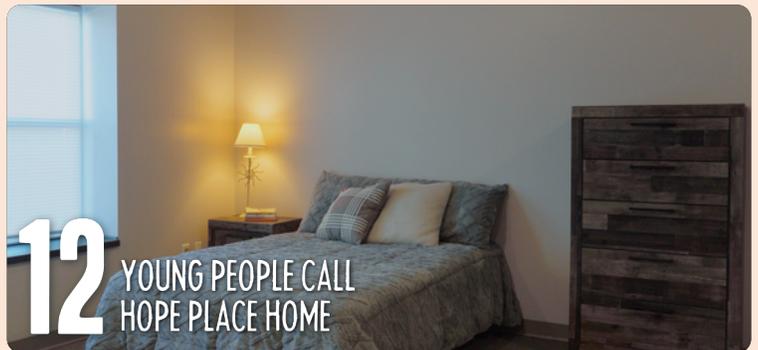
**783** CHILD VISITS OF PARENTING YOUTH

ON AVERAGE, IT COSTS \$2,714 TO ASSIST YOUTH WITH STABLE HOUSING.

## HOPE PLACE



**346** HOURS OF ONE-ON-ONE SUPPORT



**12** YOUNG PEOPLE CALL HOPE PLACE HOME



**6** YOUNG PEOPLE COMPLETED THE PROGRAM AND MOVED INTO STABLE HOUSING



**10** RESIDENTS ARE WORKING OR IN SCHOOL



**9** NEW RESIDENTS MOVED IN AND STARTED WORKING TOWARDS SELF-SUFFICIENCY

# SPREADING HOPE

*At HOPE 4 Youth, we strive to meet young people where they are, offering the support, guidance, and resources needed to end their experience with homelessness and discover stability.*

*Each youth who walks through our doors brings a unique story, often shaped by various challenges they faced as a young person. We believe there is potential within every youth. Through our programs and services, youth have the opportunity to learn, grow, and develop the skills they need, not just to survive, but to thrive.*

*The following stories offer a glimpse into the struggles and triumphs youth have faced. With the support of HOPE 4 Youth, many youth are taking critical steps toward their goals. Together, we can continue to spread HOPE and make a difference.*

# SPREADING HOPE

Dante has been coming to HOPE 4 Youth for over a year. On his first visit, he shared he was sleeping outside because his only parent passed away causing him to lose his home. He met with a Youth Coordinator who helped him get into a local shelter. After obtaining a warm place to stay, Dante focused on getting a job. He applied to a variety of places but felt discouraged when he wasn't hearing back. With the collaboration of HOPE 4 Youth, a local shelter, and Dante's efforts, he was offered a full-time job. Next, he explored housing options with his Youth Coordinator. He was given the chance to interview at HOPE Place and moved in shortly after. Dante is working, supporting himself, and feeling encouraged as he moves forward.



# 79%

of youth feel their resilience to cope with stress and unforeseen situations has improved in the last six months.

# 71%

of youth have made advancements in their employment/career goals in the last six months.



Kai started coming to HOPE 4 Youth in the summer of 2024. In her first few months, she received basic needs before gaining the confidence to start meeting with a Youth Coordinator. Kai shared she came from foster care, was struggling with substance abuse, and had been involved with sex trafficking. Kai wanted to be clean and get off the streets. Her Youth Coordinator was able to connect her to a local treatment center. Several months later, Kai returned to HOPE 4 Youth excited to share she had successfully completed the program and was ready to explore employment options with the goal of securing stable housing.

# 85%

of youth have reported since engaging with H4Y, they have stopped or reduced their drug & alcohol use.

# SPREADING HOPE

This past year, Tianna, a mother of two, came into HOPE 4 Youth sharing that she fled a domestic violence situation and needed rental support. She had recently started working but didn't have enough savings to support her and her children. Tianna worked with her Youth Coordinator to explore housing options. She was brought to tears when she found out she could apply for housing support. Within a week she was approved and was beyond excited. Tianna found an apartment and safely moved her and her children in. HOPE 4 Youth was able to support her first month's rent and security deposit. She has now been there for almost six months.

**30%** of youth of the youth we serve are parenting their own children.



**74%** of youth have obtained or maintained stable housing for the last six months.

## How has HOPE 4 Youth been a part of your story?

**“I would recommend HOPE 4 Youth to any young person who needs help”**

**“You helped me progress and make my goals become a reality”**

**“You helped give me the push I needed”**

**“They are always there to help. When there’s no one, HOPE 4 Youth is there”**

**“HOPE 4 Youth is a very welcoming and resourceful program that has helped me so much”**

**“HOPE 4 Youth saved my life and I am forever grateful”**

# VOLUNTEERS AND DONORS

Our life-changing work is powered by an inspiring group of generous donors and volunteers who give money and time - often both.

**1,189** Individual Donors

**417** Organization and Business Donors

Over **581** volunteers served a total of **8,220** valued at **\$275,288**

Outcomes:

- 644 hours of internships
- 162 Donation Drives
- 32,579 lbs of food donated
- 9,514 lbs of hygiene donated

## 2024 FINANCIALS

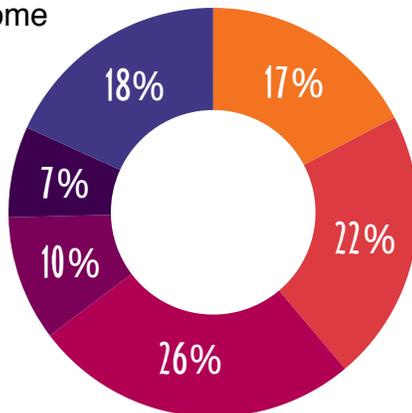
HOPE 4 Youth is committed to transparency, efficiency, and good stewardship.

Nearly, **\$0.85** of every dollar directly supports our youth.

### Income

**\$2,628,272**

Total Income



**\$455,503**  
Individuals

**\$566,018**  
Businesses, Faith Based,  
& Civic Organizations

**\$678,991**  
Foundations &  
Government

**\$260,408**  
Special Events

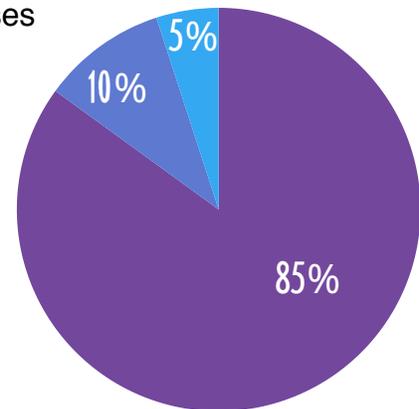
**\$189,118**  
Earned Income  
& Investments

**\$478,234**  
Gift in Kind

### Expenses

**\$2,300,819**

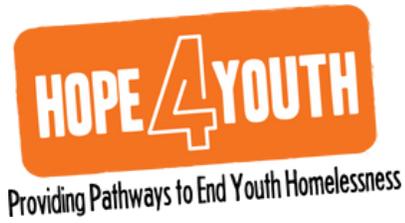
Total Expenses



**\$1,948,409**  
Program

**\$228,008**  
Fundraising

**\$124,402**  
Management & General



# BUILDING HOPE PROJECT

## HOPE 4 Youth Center Reimagined

**The Building HOPE Project will expand our ability to serve young people who might otherwise go without the basic support needed to end their experience with homelessness and overcome other social barriers.**

### Building HOPE Capacity

- Licensed commercial kitchen for preparing healthy meals
- Large basic-needs pantry stocked with healthy foods and hygiene supplies
- Storefront and expanded display area for clothing closet donations
- Bright, roomy dining area for community lunches and dinners
- Comfortable lounge area for relaxing and socializing
- Modern computer lab for online school, job applications, and mentorship programming
- Expanded shower, laundry, and personal storage facilities
- Sorting and overstock storage area for clothing, food, and supply donations
- Private meeting rooms for creating housing, education, and employment plans

### Building HOPE Together

Interaction between our young visitors and caring adult volunteers and mentors is key to HOPE 4 Youth's vision that youth feel safe, valued, and supported while working to reach their full potential. Our new facility will allow community engagement and support to be under one roof, creating more opportunities for:

- Youth socializing activities
- Support-group meetings
- Volunteer onboarding and training programs
- Vocational and developmental training programs

This new facility would bring our entire administrative staff under one roof and would provide space for HOPE 4 Youth to collaborate with other community partners in powerful new ways, including:

- Career development programs
- Virtual mental health and wellness checks
- Parenting classes for young adults with children
- Possible on-site medical, dental, and other services

## GET INVOLVED



HOPE 4 Youth provides meaningful one-time and long-term volunteer opportunities that allow you to make a difference in the lives of the young people we serve.



Many of our youth have little or nothing when they come to us. Being able to provide food, clothing, and other items helps restore a sense of hope, self-worth, and dignity.



The support we provide is made possible, in part, by generous donors who give to support HOPE 4 Youth.

## 2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Chief Strategy Officer, FamilyWise Services

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Chief Investment Officer, Greater Midwest Financial Group

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Accounting Controller, Consultant

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Special Assistant Anoka County Attorney, Anoka County Attorney's Office

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### CONTACT US